GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2997
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2003
DEVELOPMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to develop Pharmaceutical industry in the country and particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the government to promote pharmaceutical industrial projects, State-wise;

(d) the details of the amount allocated, disbursed and utilized for the same during the last three years;

(e) whether it is a fact that the government both in Centre and State find it difficult to monitor the performance of Pharmaceutical industries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS(Dr. CHHATTRA PAL SINGH)

(a) to (d): In February, 2002, Government announced the `Pharmaceutical Policy-2002`. This provides the framework for the sustained growth and development of the Pharmaceutical Industry. The main ingredients of this policy are:-

(a) Ensuring abundant availability at reasonable prices within the country of good quality essential pharmaceuticals of mass consumption.

(b) Strengthening the indigenous capability for cost effective quality production and exports of pharmaceuticals by reducing barriers to trade in the pharmaceutical sector.

(c) Strengthening the system of quality control over drug and pharmaceutical production and distribution to make quality an essential attribute of the Indian pharmaceutical industry and promoting rational use of pharmaceuticals.

(d) Encouraging R&D in the pharmaceutical sector in a manner compatiblewith the country`s needs and with particular focus on diseases endemic or relevant to India by creating an environment conducive to channelising a higher level of investment in to R&D in pharmaceuticals in India.

(e) Creating an incentive framework for the pharmaceutical industry, which promotes new investment into pharmaceutical industry and encourages the introduction of new technologies and new drugs.

A Public Interest Litigation in Karnataka High Court has resulted in an orderdated 12-11-2002 which stops the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy-2002. Government have filed a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the Karnataka High Court.

(e) & (f): Pharmaceutical Industry is monitored by numerous agencies. I naddition, Government have established the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), which is specifically responsible for monitoring prices in the Pharmaceutical Sector.